lodged with them nor there is any programme of a token strike in the Valley or the State.

International T.V. producers' market, 1990

145. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan participated in international T.V. producers' market, 1990 at Cannes between April 20th and 25th, if so, what were the Indian movies that were on display there; what are the benefits that Doordarshan gained out of this; and

(b) whether there were any offers for our films and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has been participating since 1988 in the world's prominent TV programme market festival organised at Cannes, Paris. While in 1988, Doordarshan made their presence felt only by exhibiting some TV programmes in hired auditoria, their participation in 1989 and 1990 festivals was enlarged to hiring of proper stalls at the main venue. As a result of participation in 1989, Doordarshan were able to sell programmes worth approx. US $ 80,000.00. Further negotiations are still on. Results of participation in the just concluded 1990 festival have not yet been assessed and compiled. It is also relevant to point out that the eventual fall-out of such particpations is spread over a length of period and cannot be immediately determined.

Strengthening of relations with Nepal

146. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what steps have been taken to further strengthen our relations with Nepal in view of the new developments there?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): Government have wholeheartedly welcomed the recent developments in Nepal which have facilitated the restoration of multi-party democracy. We are keeping in close touch with the interim Government. In his letter of felicitations to the Prime Minister of Nepal, the Prime Minister of India has emphasised Government's desire to restore the uniquely close relationship between Nepal and India in its entirety and to deepen and strengthen it in all areas. We hope to resume negotiations at an early date, with a view to working out a comprehensive solution of all outstanding problems between the two countries.

Change in the timings for telecasting of rural/agriculture programmes of Hyderabad Doordarshan Kendra

147. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were reprsentations to change the timings of rural/agriculture programmes of Hyderabad Doordarshan Kendra to suit the timings of famers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Member had himself suggested sometimes back that the timings for telecast of rural/agricultural programmes should be between 7.00 P.M. and 7.30 P.M. However, it is felt that the present timings for telecast of such programmes between 6.30 P.M. and 7.00 P.M. are well suited to the farmers and also perfectly fit in the Fixed Point Chart of Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad.